

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention is directed to improved methods and compositions for synthesis of oligonucleotides and other phosphorus-linked oligomers, without the need for phosphoryl protecting groups. The methods involve the reaction of nucleoside 5 phosphoramidites with a support-bound oligomer having one or more unprotected phosphorus-containing internucleoside linkages in the presence of a neutralizing agent.